



113

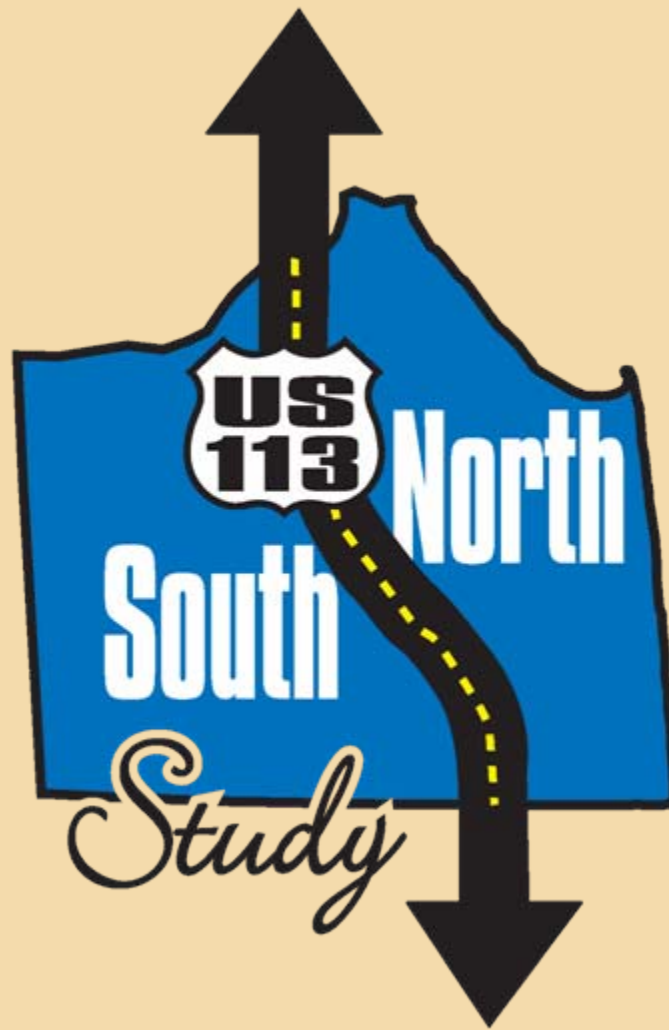
**US 113 NORTH/SOUTH STUDY**

# **Millsboro-South Area Public Workshops**

**Millsboro: June 12, 2006**

**Selbyville: June 13, 2006**





**Monroe C. Hite, III, P.E.**  
**Project Manager**

# Purpose of the Study

- **Identify, select, and protect an alignment for a limited-access US 113**
  - **Address transportation needs**
  - **Protect environmental and historic resources**
  - **Accommodate planned economic growth**

# Purpose of this Workshop

- **Get your comments, so we can:**
  - Further improve each alternative
  - Begin preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
  - Move toward recommending a preferred alternative

# Study Areas

← Georgetown-South Study Area →



← Milford Study Area →

# **Progress to Date**

- **Since the study started in late 2003, the Project Team has:**
  - **Held 13 rounds of Working Group meetings**
  - **Conducted five rounds of public workshops**
  - **Met frequently with regulatory agencies**
  - **Amassed volumes of technical data**

# **Progress to Date**

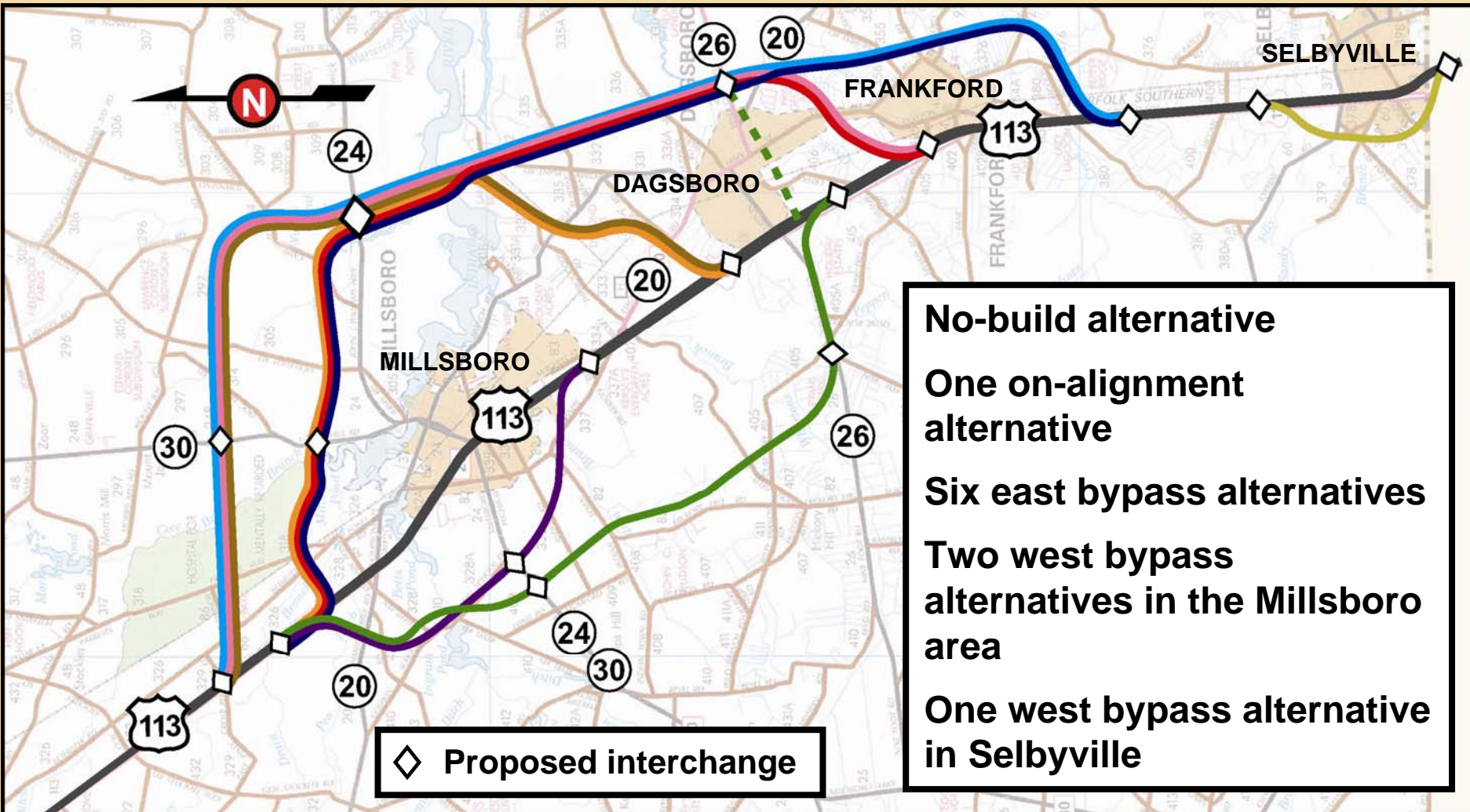
- **The Project Team has narrowed down the number of alternatives in the Millsboro-South area with input from:**
  - **The public**
  - **Working Groups**
  - **Environmental resource agencies**

# Progress to Date

- **The Project Team has narrowed down the number of alternatives in the Millsboro-South area by:**
  - **Developing ideas and concepts for alternatives**
  - **Creating a full range of alternatives**
  - **Analyzing 25 preliminary alternatives**
  - **Reducing those 25 to 11 alternatives retained for detailed study (ARDS)**



# Eleven Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study



# Progress to Date

- **These alternatives also address important east-west issues**
  - **SR 24 connector in Millsboro**
  - **SR 26 relocation in Dagsboro**
  - **SR 54 relocation in Selbyville**

# Progress to Date

- **The Project Team is not waiting for a preferred alternative to start making improvements**
  - **Short-term improvements at US 113/SR 18/SR 404 in Georgetown are under construction**
  - **Short-term improvements at US 113/SR 24 in Millsboro are in design**
  - **Other short-term improvements are anticipated**

# **Progress to Date**

- **The Project Team is working to preserve corridors now through frequent coordination with:**
  - **All towns in the corridor**
  - **Sussex County**
  - **Office of State Planning Coordination**

# Key Issues

**Although many issues are taken into account, there are five key issues that will help determine which retained alternative becomes the recommended preferred alternative.**

# Key Issues

- **Wetlands**
- **Historic properties**
- **Rare, threatened and endangered species**
- **Traffic analysis**
- **Socio-economic impacts**

# Key Issues

## ► Wetlands

Historic properties

Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

Traffic analysis

Socio-economic  
impacts

- **Substantial field review and wetland consultation has been conducted.**
- **Some wetland boundaries found in the field did not match the original mapping.**
- **As this work is completed, alternatives will be shifted to minimize wetland impacts.**

# Key Issues

Wetlands

▶ Historic properties

Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

Traffic analysis

Socio-economic  
impacts

- **More than 1,100 properties have been studied and must be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).**
- **Over 500 of those properties are in the Millsboro-South study area.**



# Key Issues

Wetlands

▶ Historic properties

Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

Traffic analysis

Socio-economic  
impacts

- **About 50 properties have been recommended by the Project Team as being historically significant (16 in the Millsboro-South area).**
- **Most of these properties are new to SHPO, increasing review time.**

# Key Issues

Wetlands

Historic properties

▶ Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

Traffic analysis

Socio-economic  
impacts

- **Swamp Pink (a federally-listed flower) has been found in the study area, so federal consultation is required.**
- **Bald Eagles are also a concern.**
- **Coordination with DNREC continues regarding state-listed species.**

# Key Issues

Wetlands

Historic properties

Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

▶ Traffic analysis

Socio-economic  
impacts

- **A more in-depth operations analysis is needed for detailed study.**
- **We are looking not only at individual project areas, but at the US 113 corridor as a whole.**

# Key Issues

Wetlands

Historic properties

Rare, threatened  
and endangered  
species

Traffic analysis

▶ Socio-economic  
impacts

- **We continue to gather public input regarding the alternatives.**
- **During detailed study, that input will be correlated with planning analyses:**
  - **Community cohesion**
  - **Property impacts**
  - **Economic impacts**

# Key Issues

- Much of the work on these issues is being done for the first time in this part of Sussex County.
- As a result, it is taking more time to reach a recommended preferred alternative.

# **Key Issues**

**The boards and maps illustrate some key issues associated with each alternative and how the Project Team is shifting the alternatives to minimize them.**

# Issues to Be Considered

- Wetlands
- Historic properties
- Rare, threatened and endangered species
- Traffic analysis
- Socio-economic impacts
- Farmland
- Forestland
- Archaeology
- Property impacts
- Economic impacts
- Noise/air quality
- Cost
- Consistency with Livable Delaware
- Section 4(f)
- Section 6(f)

# Funding

- **The study is fully funded through selection of a preferred alternative**
- **Funds are being sought to start protective right-of-way acquisition**



# **Why Do We Need to Select an Alternative As Soon As Possible?**

- **Property owners need to know if their property will be impacted.**
- **The pace of development is reducing our options.**
- **A preferred alternative will enable the State to protect the right of way.**
- **A preferred alternative gives the County and Towns more leverage in protecting the alignment.**

# **Schedule/Next Steps**

## **Summer/Fall 2006**

- 1. Evaluate comments on refined alternatives**
- 2. Consult with environmental resource agencies on data and analysis for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**
- 3. Prepare DEIS**

# **Schedule/Next Steps**

## **Winter 2006/2007**

- 4. Present DEIS data and analysis to Working Groups**
- 5. Discuss potential recommendation for a preferred alternative in each area with Working Groups and environmental resource agencies**

# **Schedule/Next Steps**

## **Spring 2007**

- 6. Announce availability of DEIS, possibly including a recommended preferred alternative\***
- 7. Conduct Public Workshop/Hearing on DEIS**

**\* Depends on coordination with environmental resource agencies, Working Groups, and the public.**

# **Thank You!**

## **We appreciate your input!**

**Please be sure to provide your  
comments:**

- **Tonight in the comment boxes, or**
- **Before July 18, by**
  - **Mail**
  - **The project Web site**

**<http://www.deldot.gov/static/projects/us113>**